



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**Department of  
Information Technology**



**Testimony on Senate Bill 286**

**An Act Concerning the Duties of the Department Of Information Technology**

**March 1, 2010**

Senator Slossberg, Representative Spallone and members of the Government Administration Committee, I am Ron San Angelo of the Department Of Information Technology (DOIT) and I want to thank you for raising Senate Bill 286 an "An Act Concerning the Duties of the Department Of Information Technology and allowing me to testify today.

Section 1 pertains to agency calculation of fees for computer stored public records. When DOIT was created, it was given the responsibility in C.G.S. 1-212 to "monitor the calculation of the fees charged for copies of computer-stored public records to ensure that such fees are reasonable and consistent among agencies."

Section 1 replaces the requirement that DOIT monitor the calculation of those fees with the requirement that DOIT establish and publish general guidelines for agencies to reference.

DOIT has never had resources to adequately monitor fees charged by 169 cities and towns and all state agencies, but fully supports the need for consistency and fairness in their calculation. The Freedom of Information Commission, rather than DOIT, has final authority over fee calculation, and DOIT supports the Commission through education and outreach on this topic at Freedom of Information of Commission events, conferences and workshops. DOIT believes standard, pro-active guidelines to be more useful in the promotion of reasonable and consistent fees rather than after the fact monitoring, a labor intensive role for which resources have never been available.

Section 2 adds DOIT to the statutory section of Executive Branch agencies. When DOIT was created, the agency was not added to Sec. 4-38c "Departments within the Executive Branch." This proposal simply corrects that omission.

Section 3 would mandate that DOIT continue to provide professional development to its own employees and provide general guidelines to agencies for professional development for information technology employees. When DOIT was created in 1997, it was given the responsibility in C.G.S. 4d-17 to provide professional development to the State of CT IT employees but was never given the resources to do so. The auditors have repeatedly cited DOIT on this lapse but there are no funds for education and training for the hundreds of IT employees outside of the agency.

Section 4 adds DOIT as the state's IT agency to the E911 Commission. E911 has an important IT component. Although DOIT contributes to the Commission and procures for the E911 program, it should have a formal role on the commission. DOIT has statutory authority over the IT standards, procurements and practices and should join the many other agencies and municipalities that are represented on the commission.

Thank you for your kind consideration!

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